

Testimony of Meredith Renda, MD
[optional] Pediatrician at Doctors' Pediatric
to the Public Health Committee
Senate Bill 213- An Act Allowing Medical Assistants to Administer Vaccines

March 7, 2022

Senator Abrams, Representative Steinberg and members of the Public Health Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Senate Bill 213- *An Act Allowing Medical Assistants to Administer Vaccines*.

My name is Dr. Meredith Renda, and I am a pediatrician practicing in Ridgefield, CT.

Primary care pediatricians have been on the frontlines of the COVID-19 pandemic since the beginning. Pediatricians are a trusted resource for families, and as such, we are often the first stop when parents have questions about their child and COVID-19. Over the course of the past two years, we have fielded countless calls from concerned parents and provided COVID-19 testing and vaccinations, all while keeping up with the typical well-child visits and caring for sick patients.

While these past two years have been challenging for our practices, SB 213 offers an opportunity to alleviate some of the staffing and capacity challenges of community practices across the state. [The nursing shortage has really crippled our ability to provide good care to children in a timely manner. Allowing MAs to give vaccines would be a huge step in the direction of remedying this. thank you!]

Thank you for your consideration of this position.

If you have any questions about this testimony, please contact Meredith Renda 203-431-3363.